Attorney Docket RA-5621 RCE filed January 16, 2006 Group Art Unit 3629

<u>Amendments</u>

Please amend the Claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method of using a data processing system for
 2 processing travelers crossing international borders, comprising:
- a) prior to the time of travel, employing the data processing system to enroll a
- 4 traveler to utilize an automated check-in process after an authorized enrollment
- 5 representative verifies that the traveler is eligible to make an international border
- 6 crossing; and
- b) at the time of travel, utilizing the automated check-in process to complete
- 8 activities necessary to enable an the international border crossing without aid of human
- 9 intervention.
- (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein step a) includes:
- 2 obtaining an image of a travel document; and
- 3 comparing the image to an image on file with an enrollment official.
- 1 3. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein
- 2 the step of obtaining the image includes scanning the travel document to obtain a
- 3 digital image; and
- 4 the step of comparing the image includes comparing the digital image to a digital
- 5 image on file with the enrollment official.

- 1 4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the travel document is selected from
- 2 the group consisting of passports and Official Travel Documents (QTDs).
- 1 5. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein step a) includes
- 2 collecting unique identification indicia from the traveler for use in performing
- 3 identification verification on a day of travel.
- 1 6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the identification indicia includes
- 2 biometric data.
- 7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the biometric data is selected from a
- 2 group consisting of handwriting samples, iris scans, hand or finger geometry, facial
- 3 scans, facial geometry measurements, hand scans, fingerprint samples, physical
- 4 measurements, and voice samples.
- (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the biometric data includes at least
- 2 two different types of biometric samples.
- 1 9. (Original) The method of Claim 5, and further including storing the identification
- 2 indicia for use during the automated check-in process.
- 1 10. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein step b) includes
- 2 retrieving the stored identification indicia;

- 3 collecting unique identification indicia from the traveler; and
- 4 automatically comparing the unique identification indicia to the stored
- 5 identification indicia to verify identity of the traveler.
- 1 11. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the retrieving of the
- 2 stored identification indicia includes:
- 3 scanning a travel document; and
- 4 using information on the travel document to retrieve the stored identification
- 5 indicia.
- 1 12. (Original) The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically verifying
- 2 that the traveler's itinerary qualifies the user to use the automated check-in process.
- 1 13. (Original) The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically prompting
- 2 the traveler to electronically complete at least one questionnaire required for the
- 3 international border crossing.
- 1 14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, and further including checking the at least
- 2 one completed questionnaire to determine whether the traveler is eligible to utilize an
- 3 automated clearance process after the international border has been crossed.
- 1 15. (Original) The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically printing
- 2 documents to allow the traveler to embark on the international border crossing.

- 1 16. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the automated check-in process is
- 2 performed on a self-service kiosk.
- 1 17. (Previously amended) The method of Claim 1, and including performing one or
- 2 more automated checks to determine whether the traveler poses any risk to a country of
- 3 destination.
- 1 18. (Original) The method of Claim 17, wherein the checks are selected from the
- 2 group consisting of a criminal check, a terrorist check, an agricultural check, and an
- 3 immigration check.
- 1 19. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 17, and further including, at the
- 2 country of destination, utilizing an automated clearance process to allow the traveler to
- 3 enter the country.
- 1 20. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein the automated
- 2 clearance process includes:
- 3 verifying the identity of the traveler;
- 4 obtaining results of the one or more automated checks;
- 5 if any of the one or more automated checks failed, requiring the traveler to
- 6 undergo a manual clearance process; and

- 7 if all of the automated checks passed, allowing the user to enter the country of
- 8 destination without undergoing the manual clearance process.
- 1 21. (Original) The method of Claim 20, and further including enabling an automated
- 2 exit gate to allow a user to enter the country of destination.
- 1 22. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the step of storing the
- 2 identification indicia includes creating a secure token storing the identification indicia.
- 1 23. (Currently Amended) A system for performing automated processing of a
- 2 traveler crossing an international border, comprising:
- a data processing system to allow an authorized enrollment representative, prior
- 4 to a day of travel, to verify that the traveler is eligible to cross the international border.
- 5 and to thereafter enroll a the traveler to use an automated check-in procedure; and
- 6 a first user interaction system coupled to the data processing system to provide
- 7 the automated check-in procedure that automatically initiates activities necessary to
- 8 allow the traveler to cross the international border without human intervention on the
- 9 day of travel.
- 1 24. (Original) The system of Claim 23, and further including a second user
- 2 interaction system coupled to the data processing system to provide an automated
- 3 clearance procedure that automatically initiates activities necessary to allow the traveler

- 4 to enter a country of destination after the international border has been crossed.
- 1 25. (Original) The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the
- 2 second user interaction systems are self-service kiosks.
- 1 26. (Original) The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the
- 2 second user interaction systems includes at least one biometric reader to read biometric
- 3 samples from the traveler.
- 1 27. (Original) The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the
- 2 second user interaction systems includes a scanner to scan travel documents.
- 1 28. (Original) The system of Claim 24, wherein the first user interaction system
- 2 obtains data from the traveler that is required to allow entry into the country of
- 3 destination.
- 1 29. (Original) The system of Claim 28, wherein at least one of the data processing
- 2 system and the first user interaction system includes means for checking the data to
- 3 determine whether the traveler is allowed to utilize the second user interaction system
- 4 to complete the automated clearance procedure.
- 1 30. (Original) The system of Claim 29, wherein at least one of the data processing
- 2 system and the first and second user interaction systems includes means to initiate

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- 3 automated checks to determine whether the traveler poses any threat to the country of
- 4 destination.
- 1 31. (Currently Amended) A system for managing the crossing of an international
- 2 border by a traveler, comprising:
- 3 enrollment means for enrolling the traveler in an automated travel process <u>after</u>
- 4 an enrollment representative manually verifies the traveler is eligible to enter one or
- 5 more countries; and
- automated user interface means for allowing the user to participate in the
- 7 automated travel process that completes all activities required for entry into a country
- 8 any of the one or more countries without the need for human intervention at the time of
- 9 travel.

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- 2 32. (Original) The system of Claim 31, wherein the automated user interface
- 3 means includes:
- 4 first means for automatically performing check-in activities before crossing
- 5 the border; and
- 6 second means for automatically performing clearance activities after
- 7 crossing the border.